

JEFFREY J. ARGENTOS

586 17TH AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94121

(415) 668-2272

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

Docket No. 98-N-1265

Food and Drug Administration

5600 Fishers Lane Room 1061


Rockville, MD 20857

To the Food and Drug Administration:

I strongly oppose the Draft MOU being proposed at this time. In particular, I object to the definition of "inordinate amount" which restricts the availability and the right to obtain necessary, compounded medications by limiting the number of prescriptions that can be shipped across state lines from specialized compounding pharmacies.

I suffer from a rare disorder called Sarcoidosis. This is a difficult disease to manage and often requires high doses of systemic steroids which have many dangerous and life-threatening side effects. I recently needed to have a special medication compounded for me in doses that were not available in any commercial preparation. I and my physicians were greatly relieved at finding that this could be done at a compounding pharmacy. For people with rare disorders, allergies, drug sensitivities—and especially the frail and elderly with special medication needs—these pharmacies are literally life-savers. I strongly urge you not to adopt the MOU under consideration as it can pose serious health consequences to many in our country.

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey J. Argentos

CC: Representative Nancy Pelosi
House of Representatives

98N-1265

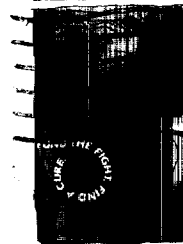
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BREAST-CANCER



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